APPENDIX

<u>In the Specification</u>

Figure 1 is a block diagram indicating the system in filtering e-mail to identify content in accordance with the ~~prior art~~ present invention.

<u>In the Abstract</u>

A file content classification system includes a digital ID generator and an ID appearance database coupled to receive IDs from the ID generator. The system further includes a characteristic comparison routine identifying the file as having a characteristic based on ID appearance in the appearance database. In a further aspect, a method for identifying a characteristic of a data file ~~is disclosed. The method~~ comprises the steps of: generating a digital identifier for the data file and forwarding the identifier to a processing system; determining whether the forwarded identifier matches a characteristic of other identifiers; and processing the ~~e-mail~~data file based on said step of determination.

<u>In the Claims</u>

Below is a marked-up copy of the amended claims.

1. A file content classification system comprising:

a plurality of digital content ID generators provided on a plurality of devices;

an ID appearance database coupled to receive digital content IDs from the digital content ID generators; and

a characteristic comparison routine identifying the file content as having a characteristic based on the appearance of the digital content ID [appearance] in the appearance database.

6. The content classification system of claim [5] 1 wherein said plurality of digital ID generators are coupled to said database via a combination of public and private networks.

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